

- Find out more about the watershed or groundwater source supplying your water.
- 2 Be alert to land uses or other activities that could threaten your water supply.
- 3 Never over-fertilize your lawn.
- Regularly get your vehicle inspected for fluid leaks.
- Pick up trash and cover trash bins to prevent litter from blowing into storm drains.
- Find out if environmental and conservation issues are part of your school's curriculum.



Natural Resources Conservation Service

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Helping People Help the Land



United States Department of Agriculture



You and everybody in your hometown depend on water.

But water is like many other things that we depend on—we have to take care of it. How?

You're about to meet some mighty fine folks who'll show you.

But before you say your how-do-you-do's, let's find out how much you already know by taking a "H₂O IQ" quiz...

True or False



Leaving grass mow is a good, natural way to fertilize and minimize use of chemicals that could contaminate water. True or False

excellent way to get rid of pesky insects and minimize use of pesticides that could enter your town's water supply. True or False

moist and saves True or False

faucet can waste 20 gallons of water a day. True or False

to an oil recydumping the

storm drain.

True or False

saving farmers True or False

When farmers aquatic life. True or False is less likely to wash the

without

soil away.

True or False

on riverbanks can help keep True or False

If you answered "true" to each of the 10 statements, treat yourself to a great big glass of cold, clear water. But there's still plenty to learn. Get ready! It's time to meet the fine folks of Watertown!



Good Water is Good for Everyone.



That's why Everybody in Watertown does everything they can to keep their water clean.

tow do they do it? Here are some special people who will show you how.

The Whackers are wacky about their lawn-and clean water, too. That's why after they're through giving their lawn a terrific trim, they don't rake up the clippings. They let the clippings stay where they lay-that fertilizes the grass naturally. That way, they don't use fertilizers that could faint the town's water.





Watertown's river and lake are clean now, but they used to be full of Junk and litter. Now the folks of Watertown pick up trash whenever they see it and plant trees near the water's edge to keep soil from erading. Naw everyone garees that the river and lake "shore" look erefty.

No-Till Bill doesn't till the soil on his farm, Instead of tilling (which is the same as alowing), he plants his seeds without plowing under the stalks and stems left over from his last crop. Since he doesn't disturb the soil, it's more likely to stay in place and less likely to be washed away by rain. As No-Till Bill talls his farming friends. There's no thrill like

Chuck the Duck rules the roost hare at Watertown

Wetland. He knows that people in Watertown do

everything they can to keep his home clean. After

wellands filter out things that people don't want i

that caring for water really fills the bill

their water. Chuck's wetland gives him a pice place to

live and plenty of food to eat. No wonder Chuck thinks



The Waders had a problem with the garden on the till behind their house. When it rained, all the water can off the hill and turned their game room into a massive mud puddle. So the Waders built terraces in their garden that let the water sock into the soil. Now they have a real nice hillside garden and they don't have to put on wading boots to play ping pong.



When it comes to conserving water, Fermer Phyllis. keeps things under control. She's found a good Irrigation system that doesn't waste water and keeps her crops happy and healthy, too. Says Farmer Phyllis, "It may sound corny, but efficient irrigation 'lettuce'

People in Watertown know that everybody fives in a watershed. This means that all their water eventually flows down to the river and take. That's why they do all they can to keep their water



clean and pristing.



Everybody in Watertown hopes you had a good visit. And they hope

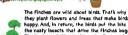


you picked up some pointers that you can use to take good care of The water in your hometown. To learn more about your watershed, contact your local USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service office. You'll find us on the Internet at www.nrcs.usda.gov or in the felephone book under U.S. Government.









they plant flowers and trees that make birds happy. And, in return, the birds put the bite on the nasty insects that drive the finches buggy. Thanks to their bird buddles, the Finches don't have to use pesticides that could get into



Here's Major Mulcher working in his garden. He's not in the military, but he does use major amounts of mutch. He knows that mutch keeps the soil moist. Less water on his garden means

more water for everybody in Watertown.

Corta believes in taking good care of her car. And she takes good care of Watertown's water, too. When she changes her all, she doesn't dump her used all down the drain. She takes her all to the nearest oil recycling center. Carlo thinks that you definitely "auto" try this yourself.

the eark areen and arowing.